

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ashley Pezzner on 1/5/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

At page 5, line 4 of the specification please insert the following heading and paragraph.

#### **Brief Description of the Figures**

Fig. 1 shows a scanning electron micrograph of the resultant Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> at 100 times magnification for comparative example 1.

Fig. 2 shows a scanning electron micrograph (SEM) of the obtained Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> powder (100 times magnification) for example 2.

Fig. 3 shows a scanning electron micrograph (SEM) of the obtained Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> powder (200 times magnification) for example 3.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES A. FIORITO whose telephone number is (571)272-7426. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am - 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stanley Silverman can be reached on (571) 272-1358. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James A Fiorito/  
Examiner, Art Unit 1793

/Stanley Silverman/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1793